

STATE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF IOWA

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The Annals of Iowa

Volume 15 | Number 5 (Summer 1926)

pps. 391-394

Silver Service of the Battleship Iowa

ISSN 0003-4827

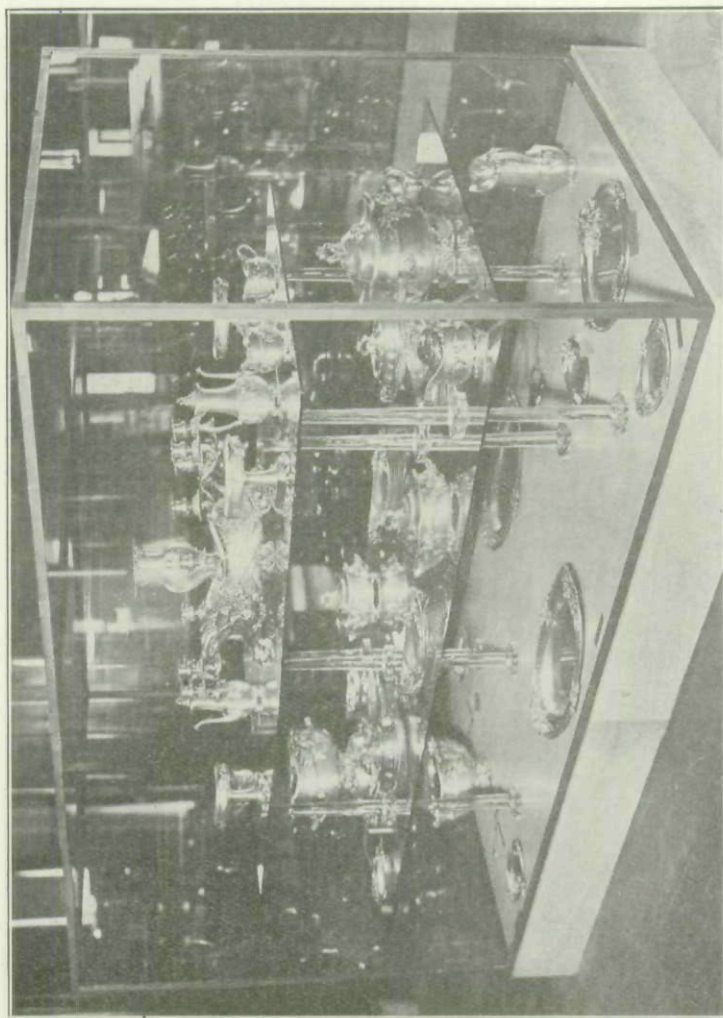
No known copyright restrictions.

Recommended Citation

"Silver Service of the Battleship Iowa." *The Annals of Iowa* 15 (1926), 391-394.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.5008>

Hosted by [Iowa Research Online](#)



SILVER SERVICE OF THE BATTLESHIP IOWA

Installed June 1, 1926, in the Collections of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.

ANNALS OF IOWA

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

SILVER SERVICE OF THE BATTLESHIP IOWA

The U. S. S. Iowa was authorized by act of Congress July 19, 1892. She was launched on March 28, 1896, at Philadelphia, with a public ceremony attended by Governor Francis M. Drake and staff. Miss Mary Lord Drake, daughter of Governor Drake, sponsored it. The Twenty-sixth General Assembly of Iowa made an appropriation to provide for the Iowa a silver service. Through the courtesy of Hon. John A. Kasson, who acted for our state, a commission was placed for its manufacture for the amount appropriated, \$5,000.00. The service was installed when the Iowa went into service, June 15, 1896, and graced her formalities throughout her life. After the Iowa went out of commission the service was returned to us through the good offices of Governor N. E. Kendall. It has been completely restored from the effects of use, and finally deposited in a specially built display case in our collections, where it will be preserved untouched hereafter.

We are indebted for the chronology of the Iowa to the following letter:

OFFICE OF
NAVAL RECORDS AND LIBRARY
NAVY DEPARTMENT

Washington, D. C.
May 10, 1926

Dear Sir:

Your letter of April 27, requesting the history of the U. S. S. Iowa has been referred to this office.

In reply, the following data are sent you:

U. S. S. IOWA

The first vessel named Iowa was a battleship of 48 guns—changed to 26 guns. Authorized by act of Congress July 19, 1892; keel laid August 6, 1893; launched March 26, 1896; built by Wm. Cramp & Sons, Philadelphia.

1898, May 12. Was flagship of squadron in the engagement off Santiago de Cuba. The Iowa first sighted the approach of the Spanish vessels, and fired the first shot. Lost none of her crew during the battle, although struck by shells frequently. Received on board, as prisoners, Captain Eulate (wounded), and the officers and crew of the Vizcaya. Captain Evans declined to accept the sword of Captain Eulate, who was very kindly treated by all the officers and men of the Iowa. Some of the Spanish sailors were buried from the deck of the Iowa with full military honors. Admiral Cervera, his son, and the officers and crew of the Spanish gunboats, Furor and Pluton, were also prisoners on board.

1906, Sept. 2. Reviewed by President Roosevelt at Long Island.

1907, May 15. In squadron at Jamestown Exposition.

1907, July 1. Went into reserve.

1908, July 23. Out of commission at Navy Yard, Norfolk.

1910, May 2. Placed in commission at New York.

1910, May 24. Joined Naval Academy Practice Squadron.

1910, Sept. 1. Placed in reserve at Navy Yard, Philadelphia.

1912, July 2. On cruise with Naval Militia.

1912, Oct. 12. Attached to Atlantic Reserve Fleet.

1912. Out of commission, Philadelphia Navy Yard.

1916-17. Receiving ship at Philadelphia.

1918. Coast defense, Philadelphia.

1919. Placed out of commission. Name changed to B. S. 4.

1920. Used in bombing tests.

1921. Fitted for control of ship by radio.

1923, March 22. Target; sunk.

Very sincerely,

RICHARD WAINWRIGHT, JR.,

Lt. Comdr., U. S. N. (Ret.), Superintendent.

E. R. Harlan,
Historical, Memorial and Art
Department of Iowa,
Des Moines, Iowa.

The handsome service, as designed by the silversmiths, was approved and contracted for by Governor F. M. Drake and Secretary of State W. M. McFarland on behalf of the Executive Council June 15, 1896, and wrought by J. E. Caldwell & Co. of Philadelphia. It was checked aboard the Iowa, and then back to us almost exactly thirty years afterward. As listed at each transfer we checked it into our collections without a piece missing from the original Caldwell list, which is as follows:

LIST OF PIECES COMPRISING THE DINNER SERVICE FOR THE BATTLESHIP
IOWA WITH DESCRIPTION AND APPROXIMATE WEIGHT

Center Piece—Oval in shape, 34 inches long, over all, to comprise a large oval dish for fruit—with a vase rising from center for flowers, and

a five-light candelabra springing from each end. The vase ornamented with ears of corn, and the seal of the state of Iowa. The border of the dish surrounded with heavy scrolls, and wild roses, the flower of the state, and at either end and on both sides are massive eagles in high relief, surmounting scrolls and seaweed. The center piece rests on eight cast dolphins—two at each corner and a large ornamental scroll foot at each end. The four plain panels on side of dish, and one side of vase are to be decorated as desired by the Executive Council, 400 ozs.

Soup Tureen—Oval in shape, with the seal of the state of Iowa on one side, surmounted by a cast eagle resting on a scroll and seaweed, at the other end the seal of the Navy Department. The handle on lid to be formed by two conventional dolphins. The two handles on body are heavy scrolls, with shells and seaweed, 135 ozs.

Soup Ladle—Handle formed of corn and wild roses, 15 ozs.

Punch Bowl—Round in shape, $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. Decorations same as on soup tureen body. There will also be a ladle, with corn and wild roses, 225 ozs.

Plateau for Punch Bowl—Round flat top, on rich heavy scroll feet, 75 ozs.

Fish Dish—Oval in shape, $23\frac{1}{2}$ inches long by $13\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide. An eagle in high relief surmounting at one end the seal of the state of Iowa, at the other end the seal of the Navy Department. The seals surrounded by corn and seaweed. At either side of dish, in high relief, a wild rose, 80 ozs.

Fish Carvers—The handles formed of corn and wild roses and a seal of the state of Iowa on the blade and tines, 20 ozs.

Meat Dish—Oval shape, $22\frac{1}{4}$ inches long by 15 inches wide, decoration same as on fish dish, 80 ozs.

Entree Dishes—Oval shape, $15\frac{1}{2}$ inches long by 11 inches wide. Decorated same as fish and meat dishes, 80 ozs.

Salad Bowl—Round, $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches high. Decorated as punch bowl, but without handles, 110 ozs.

Salad Servers—Handle formed of corn and wild roses, as fish carvers, 20 ozs.

Double Vegetable Dishes—Oval, upper dish $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, with a handle on top formed of conventional dolphins. That is removable, making the uncovered vegetable dishes, the decorations being wild roses, corn and scrolls, 150 ozs.

Single Vegetable Dishes—Oval, $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. Decorations same as soup tureen, 100 ozs.

Gravy Boats—Oval, body $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. Seal surmounted by scroll and seaweed on the sides, 40 ozs.

Comports—Round, 8 inches in diameter. On base or standard. Total height, $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Decorated at sides with eagle surmounting corn and seaweed, 100 ozs.

Water Pitcher—Round, 10 inches high, with a cast eagle in high

relief surmounting a seal of the state of Iowa, surrounded by corn and seaweed, 60 ozs.

Round Salver—13 inches in diameter. Decorated same as on fish dish and meat dish, 40 ozs.

Black Coffee Pots—Round, 10 inches high, decorated at sides with seal surrounded with seaweed, 70 ozs.

Sugar Bowls—Round, decorated same as coffee pots, 30 ozs.

Cream Pitchers—Round, decorated same as on coffee pots, 30 ozs.

Bread Trays—Oval, 15 inches long. Decorated same as entree dishes, 50 ozs.

Butter Dishes—Oval shape, 9 inches long. Decorated same as entree dishes. The strainer to be pierced with a pattern of wild roses, the Iowa state flower, 30 ozs.

Olive or Bon Bon Dishes—Oval, 9 inches long. Decorated same as entree dishes, 30 ozs.

T. A. LIVERMORE, SURGEON DENTIST, GALENA, ILL.

I would state for the information of those who may not be acquainted with the fact, that by having teeth which have commenced decaying, plugged with gold or silver in a proper manner they may almost invariably be preserved during life. I would also inform those persons who have lost their teeth, as well as the roots or fangs, that they can have teeth inserted by means of a gold or silver clasp of an indestructible substance, that will not change their color, which will answer in many respects the purposes of natural teeth. I would also inform those who may be troubled with that disagreeable disease, the gum scurvy, that if they will give subscriber a call, he will be happy to put them in the way of eradicating it. To those who may wish to have teeth extracted, I would say that in performing this operation I generally use forceps, which give less pain by far than that well known instrument, the turnkey. As I have resided in Galena near four years, persons wishing to employ someone can easily get information as to my qualifications as a surgeon dentist without any direct references. The subscriber will wait upon persons who may wish it at their residences.

T. A. Livermore.

—*The Iowa News*, Du Buque, Upper Lead Mines, Wisconsin Territory, December 9, 1837. (In the Newspaper Division of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.)

Copyright of *Annals of Iowa* is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.